



NRC PDR

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555
December 19, 1978

Docket Nos. 50-295
and 50-304

Mr. Cordell Reed,
Assistant Vice President
Commonwealth Edison Company
P. O. Box 767
Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dear Mr. Reed:

In your letter of October 27, and as supplemented on November 21, 1978, you requested a change to the operating licenses of Zion Units 1 and 2 which would extend the $F_{\Delta H}$ rod bow penalty curve and the EFPH clad collapse limits to include higher region average fuel burnups.

As described in your letters, your request, if approved, would allow the reinsertion of four fuel assemblies which had been used for three cycles in Zion Unit 1 into the Zion Unit 2 core for the upcoming cycles 4 and 5. As you point out, such a program would be in response to an EPRI/Westinghouse proposal to demonstrate that the Westinghouse fuel assemblies are capable of operating satisfactorily at higher burnups of up to 55,000 megawatt days per metric tonne of uranium.

As discussed with members of your staff, we are reviewing your proposal in terms of this limited scope, i.e., as an experimental program for a maximum of four fuel assemblies and for a maximum of two cycles, not for an unlimited Tech Spec change applicable to the full core. Any Tech Spec change that we would approve for such a program would therefore necessarily specify the number of assemblies and fuel cycles involved.

Considering the above, we anticipate completion of our review of the proposed change by about February 1, 1979 which is consistent with your current schedule as orally identified by Mr. Naughton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Schwencer".

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

cc: See next page

790102 0101

December 19, 1978

cc: Robert J. Vollen, Esquire
109 North Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dr. Cecil Lue-Hing
Director of Research & Development
Metropolitan Sanitary District
of Greater Chicago
100 East Erie Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Zion-Benton Public Library District
2600 Emmans Avenue
Zion, Illinois 60099

Mr. John W. Rowe
Isham, Lincoln & Beale
Counselors at Law
One First National Plaza, 42nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603